

public service her entire life, she also found time to work as a consultant on consumer relations for the FDA, serve on the national board of directors for the American Cancer Society and the American Association of the United Nations, two different boards, and then to teach government at several universities, including Reed College in Portland.

Maurine Neuberger is a treasure to the State of Oregon and to this country. I cannot tell my colleagues how happy I am today that we will be able to show just a small token of our appreciation by renaming the Cloverdale Post Office in her honor. She is an inspiration to me and should be an inspiration to all of us.

Thank you, Maurine, for your long years of public service.

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN), the ranking Democrat on the full committee.

Mr. WAXMAN. I thank the gentleman for allowing me to express not only my support for this proposal but my appreciation to the chairman the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) and the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) for moving this so expeditiously. I want to congratulate the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH) on his leadership in all of these issues that have come before the Committee on Government Reform. I urge all Members to support the resolution.

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Very briefly in closing, let me respond to the very gracious comments of the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH), the ranking member of our subcommittee, in saying how much I have appreciated his leadership and his hard work on a whole range of issues, but certainly on this bill as well. I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN), too, as the ranking member on the full committee, for his initiative and his support in assisting us in bringing forward this measure which, as we have heard from the very, I think, heartfelt comments of the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. HOOLEY), as to how former Senator Neuberger is most deserving of this honor.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the unanimous support of our colleagues on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1327.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 1327.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL NEED FOR RECONCILIATION AND HEALING AND RECOMMENDING A CALL FOR DAYS OF PRAYER

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 94) recognizing the public need for reconciliation and healing, urging the United States to unite in seeking God, and recommending that the Nation's leaders call for days of prayer.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 94

Whereas it is the necessary duty of the people of this Nation not only to humbly offer up our prayers and needs to Almighty God, but also in a solemn and public manner to confess our shortcomings;

Whereas it is incumbent on all public bodies, as well as private persons, to revere and rely on God Almighty for our day-to-day existence, as well as to follow the charge to love and serve one another;

Whereas we have witnessed the rejection of God's love through gratuitous violence and mayhem, hate, abuse, exploitation, abandonment, and other harms, much of which has been directed at the most vulnerable of our society, our children;

Whereas oppression, violence, cultural and ethnic division, strife, and murder have stained our communities and the world;

Whereas we are compelled to remind the people of the United States of the events that currently burden the hearts of the people, including—

(1) the senseless murder of our young people in Jonesboro, Arkansas, West Paducah, Kentucky, Springfield, Oregon, Pearl, Mississippi, and Littleton, Colorado;

(2) the brutal deaths of individuals by dragging, beating, burning, and exposure in Texas, Alabama, and Wyoming; and

(3) the civil unrest, systematic genocide, and religious and political persecution in Yugoslavia, Tibet, Turkey, China, Rwanda, and Sudan;

Whereas despite all, we as a Nation have been blessed with great prosperity and an unprecedented period of economic stability, for which we owe a debt of gratitude; and

Whereas in previous times of public need and moral crisis, the Congress and the President have recommended the observance of a day of solemn prayer, fasting, and humiliation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) recognizes the unique opportunity that the dawn of a millennium presents to a people in a Nation under God to humble and reconcile themselves with God and with one another;

(2) urges all Americans to unite in seeking the face of God through humble prayer and fasting, persistently asking God to send spiritual strength and a renewed sense of humility to the Nation so that hate and indifference may be replaced with love and compassion, and so that the suffering in the Nation

and the world may be healed by the hand of God; and

(3) recommends that the leaders in national, State, and local governments, in business, and in the clergy appoint, and call the people they serve to observe, a day of solemn prayer, fasting, and humiliation before God.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Idaho (Mrs. CHENOWETH) and the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Idaho (Mrs. CHENOWETH).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on House Concurrent Resolution 94.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Idaho?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am very grateful to have this opportunity to be able to bring House Concurrent Resolution 94 to the House in recognition of our national need for reconciliation and healing and calling for days of prayer, fasting and repentance.

Mr. Speaker, H. Con. Res. 94 is patterned after what was once common practice by national and State elected leaders, from the Revolutionary War to the Civil War, ending with President Abraham Lincoln's great proclamation of March, 1863, calling for a national day of humiliation, fasting and prayer.

□ 1700

In fact during this period, from the Revolutionary War to the Civil War, over 200 such resolutions were made. These proclamations literally called for a day or days where the people of this Nation refrained from working and humbly sought grace and forgiveness from God almighty through prayer and fasting in the tradition of the Old Testament's call for solemn assemblies.

Mr. Speaker, what drove these great leaders to call the Nation to pray, and I ask why should we do that again today? Well, consider the powerful words of Abraham Lincoln in this 1863 proclamation during perhaps the most difficult and tumultuous time in our Nation's history, and I quote from that proclamation:

We have been preserved, these many years, in peace and prosperity. And we have grown in numbers and wealth and power as no other Nation has ever grown. But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which has preserved us in peace, and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us; and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to God that made us. It behooves us then to humble ourselves before the offended power to confess